AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please make the following amendments to the above-identified application provided herewith:

At page 1, line 6, please insert the following amended heading:

~~**Description**~~ **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

At page 1, line 15, please insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, before line 35, please insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, line 36, please insert the following paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

In the figures:

Figure 1: shows the dependent relationship between the nitrogen oxide conversion rate and the filling level of the storage catalyst, calculated as NO_2 in grams per liter of catalyst volume [g/l] for a storage catalyst following complete regeneration,

Figure 2: shows nitrogen oxide slippage [ppm by volume] downstream of storage catalyst during repeated storage cycles with incomplete regeneration,

Figure 3: shows the remaining filling level (residual filling level F_{res}) of a storage catalyst following incomplete regeneration (partial regeneration) as a function of the filling level at the start of the regeneration,

Figure 4: shows the dependent relationship between the nitrogen oxide conversion rate and the existing filling level of a storage catalyst following incomplete regeneration of the latter.

On page 5, before line 37, please insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 12, lines 36 to page 13 line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

The following examples and the figures serve to improve understanding of the present invention. ~~In the figures:~~

~~**Figure 1:** shows the relationship between the nitrogen oxide conversion rate and the filling level of the storage catalyst, calculated as NO_2 in grams per liter of catalyst volume [g/l] for a storage catalyst following complete regeneration,~~

~~**Figure 2:** shows nitrogen oxide slippage [ppm by volume] downstream of storage catalyst during repeated storage cycles with incomplete regeneration,~~

~~**Figure 3:** shows the remaining filling level (residual filling level F_{res}) of a storage catalyst following incomplete regeneration (partial regeneration) as a function of the filling level at the start of the regeneration,~~

~~**Figure 4:** shows the dependent relationship between the nitrogen oxide conversion rate and the existing filling level of a storage catalyst following incomplete regeneration of the latter.~~

On page 19, delete the phrase "Patent Claims" and replace it with the following:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: